

Sermon Notes - Sunday 2nd June 'Life in the Spirit – Purity'

'The whole purpose of God in redemption is to make us holy and to restore us to the image of God' AW Tozer. On a scale of 1-10 (with 1 being, 'he's really got his work cut out' and 10 being 'practically divine') how do you feel you score in the holiness stakes? How might a friend or spouse rate you?

Read Romans 7:15-25 and note Paul's struggle with sin. If we struggle to live a holy life in our own strength, we can feel defeated and end up accommodating sinful habits and behaviour and leading a double life.

- To what extent was that true for King David (2 Samuel 11, 12)?
- Where might we go to be honest about our own inner struggles?

Paul suggests the Holy Spirit has already been given to us to empower us to live the Christian life and have victory over sin (Romans 8:1-14).

- How can we experience the Holy Spirit as a settled presence in our lives and not as an occasional visitor? Share your story.

Here are 3 ways in which we can allow the Holy Spirit to grow purity within us.

- a. Walk according to the Spirit (8:5 'walk' sometimes translated as 'live').
 - What does it mean practically to walk (step by step) with the Spirit? Can you think of an example of where you have been consciously doing this?

- b. Set your minds on the things of the Spirit (Romans 8:5-8)

- What are the things that shape your mindset?

Imagine you are a visitor from Mars, conducting a sociological survey of the assumptions, expectations, convictions and fears (mindset) of people in your society. What do you observe?

How much discipline is required to 'take captive every thought' (2 Cor 10:5)?

- c. Put to death the misdeeds of the body (Romans 8:13).

Remember Churchill's great rallying cry speech of 1940 ('Blood toil tears and sweat') that talks of 'waging war against a monstrous tyranny'.

- What prevents us from 'waging war' against sin?
- What hope is there for us when we fall to temptation?

Remember God's not finished with us yet so like Paul we 'press on' (Phil 3:12,13).

Pray for one another in your group to continue to 'press on' in the call of God on your lives allowing him to fulfil in you his work of sanctification.

Sermon Notes - Sunday 2nd June 'Life in the Spirit – Purity'

'The whole purpose of God in redemption is to make us holy and to restore us to the image of God' AW Tozer. On a scale of 1-10 (with 1 being, 'he's really got his work cut out' and 10 being 'practically divine') how do you feel you score in the holiness stakes? How might a friend or spouse rate you?

Read Romans 7:15-25 and note Paul's struggle with sin. If we struggle to live a holy life in our own strength, we can feel defeated and end up accommodating sinful habits and behaviour and leading a double life.

- To what extent was that true for King David (2 Samuel 11, 12)?
- Where might we go to be honest about our own inner struggles?

Paul suggests the Holy Spirit has already been given to us to empower us to live the Christian life and have victory over sin (Romans 8:1-14).

- How can we experience the Holy Spirit as a settled presence in our lives and not as an occasional visitor? Share your story.

Here are 3 ways in which we can allow the Holy Spirit to grow purity within us.

- d. Walk according to the Spirit (8:5 'walk' sometimes translated as 'live').
 - What does it mean practically to walk (step by step) with the Spirit? Can you think of an example of where you have been consciously doing this?

- e. Set your minds on the things of the Spirit (Romans 8:5-8)

- What are the things that shape your mindset?

Imagine you are a visitor from Mars, conducting a sociological survey of the assumptions, expectations, convictions and fears (mindset) of people in your society. What do you observe?

How much discipline is required to 'take captive every thought' (2 Cor 10:5)?

- f. Put to death the misdeeds of the body (Romans 8:13).

Remember Churchill's great rallying cry speech of 1940 ('Blood toil tears and sweat') that talks of 'waging war against a monstrous tyranny'.

- What prevents us from 'waging war' against sin?
- What hope is there for us when we fall to temptation?

Remember God's not finished with us yet so like Paul we 'press on' (Phil 3:12,13).

Pray for one another in your group to continue to 'press on' in the call of God on your lives allowing him to fulfil in you his work of sanctification.